

Standard 4-4 The student will demonstrate an understanding of the beginnings of America as a nation and the establishment of the new government.

4-4.5: Provide examples of how American constitutional democracy places important responsibilities on citizens to take an active role in the civil process. (P, H)

Taxonomy Level: B 2 Understand / Conceptual Knowledge

Previous /Future Knowledge:

In first grade, students recognized ways citizens could serve the common good (1-5.1).

Although this is the last time that the responsibility of citizenship is explicitly taught, the responsibility of citizenship is implicit throughout the social studies standards and will be addressed.

It is essential for students to know:

American constitutional democracy places important responsibilities on citizens to take an active role in the civil process. Students should understand that these responsibilities include but are not limited to: following rules and laws established by local, state and federal governments, expressing their beliefs and opinions by voting in elections, paying income taxes to support local, state, and federal projects, and serving on a jury to ensure the right of a fair trial to all individuals.

It is not essential for students to know:

Students do not need to focus on how the complete electoral process works. For instance, students may be introduced to the primary election process for nominating candidates for the presidency. However, they do not need to master it. They do not need to be able to explain local, state or federal laws.

Assessment guidelines:

Appropriate assessments will require students to **identify examples** of how citizens should be taking an active role in the civil process. Students should be able **explain** the role of the citizen in elections, paying income taxes, following rules and laws, and serving on a jury to ensure a fair trial.